



Meeting Agenda
Commonwealth Regional Council
Wednesday, September 18th, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Commonwealth Regional Council Conference Room, 200 Heartland Road, Keysville, VA

- I. Welcome & Call to Order.....Chairman
- II. Invocation
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Approval of Minutes of August 21st, 2024, Council Meeting, (pg 1)..... Council Members
- V. Treasurers' Report – July/Aug Financial Statements, (pg 8) Treasurer Walker
- VI. Report of Officers, Committees & Executive Director
 - A. Chairman's Report..... Chairman
 - B. Executive Director's Monthly Activities Report, (pg 12) Exec Director
- VII. Scoping the Future – Discussion of Innovative/Regional Ideas, (pg 29)..... Council Members
- VIII. Old Business
 - A. Staff Monthly Project Reports
 - 1) Update on Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Phase III (pg 30) Monica Frisby
 - 2) Update on Buckingham County Comprehensive Plan (pg 31) Tyler Henderson
 - 3) Update on Lunenburg County Comprehensive Plan Update, (pg 32)..... Tyler Henderson
 - 4) Update on CRC Affordable Workforce Housing Development Program, (pg 33) Lauren Pugh
 - 5) Update on Kenbridge & Charlotte County ESHP Projects, (pg 34) Lauren Pugh
 - 6) Update on Regional VATI Grant for Cumberland, Lunenburg & Prince Edward, (pg 35) Lauren Pugh
 - 7) Update on Drakes Branch Building Acquisition Project, (pg 36) Lauren Pugh
 - 8) Update CRC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, (pg 39) Tyler Henderson
 - 9) Update on Longwood SEED Innovation Hub Project, (pg 40) Lauren Pugh
 - 10) Update on Creation of Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance (VHREDA), (pg 41) Christin Jackson
 - 11) Update on Central Virginia Poultry Cooperative TRRC & AFID Grants, (pg 42)..... Monica Frisby
 - 12) Charlotte Court House Lead Service Project, (pg 43)..... Lauren Pugh
 - 13) Update on Town of Crewe Downtown Revitalization Planning Grant, (pg 44) Lauren Pugh
 - 14) EDA Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program, (pg 45) Lauren Pugh
 - 15) VDOT Rural Transportation Planning Program (pg 46)..... Tyler Henderson
 - 16) SCRC, LDD Program (pg 47)..... Tyler Henderson
 - 17) Council Member Comments
- IX. New Business Chairman
 - A. Staff Reports
 - 1) Update on Grant Writing, (pg 48) Monica Frisby
 - 2) Council Member Comments
- X. Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process, (pg 52)
- XI. Other Business
- XII. Council Member Comments
- XIII. Adjourn – **Next Meeting Date –Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 9:00**
CRC Conference Room

Commonwealth Regional Council

**CRC Conference Room
Keysville, Virginia
August 21, 2024**

Welcome & Call to Order

The Chairman, Mr. Hankins, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Invocation and Introductions

Mr. Jones gave the invocation and led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

ROLL CALL**MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES****PRESENT****ABSENT**

Amelia:

Dexter Jones

Dexter Jones
(Vice-Chair)

*Mr. David Felts

*Mr. David Felts

Buckingham:

Mr. Paul Garrett

Mr. Paul Garrett

*Mr. Karl Carter

*Mr. Karl Carter

Charlotte:

Mr. Gary Walker

Gary Walker
(Treasurer)

*Mr. Walt Bailey

*Mr. Walt Bailey

Cumberland:

Mr. John Newman

Mr. John Newman

*Mr. Eurika Tyree

*Mr. Eurika Tyree

Lunenburg:

Mr. Mike Hankins

Mr. Mike Hankins.
(Chairman)

*Ms. Taylor King

*Ms. Taylor King (V)

Nottoway:

Mr. Dickie Ingram

*Mr. Bill Collins

Mr. Dickie Ingram

*Mr. Bill Collins

Prince Edward:

Mr. David Emert

Mr. David Emert
(Secretary)

*Dr. Odessa Pride

*Dr. Odessa Pride

Non-Member Representatives:

SVCC:

**Mr. Keith Harkins

**Mr. Keith Harkins

Longwood University:

**Ms. Sheri McGuire

**Ms. Sheri McGuire

Hampden-Sydney College:

**VACANT

**VACANT

NOTE: *Denotes Alternates

**Denotes Non-Voting Member Attending

Member County Administrators Present

Mr. Steve Bowen, Nottoway County

Mr. Dan Witt, Charlotte County

Mr. Derek Stamey, Cumberland County (V)

Ms. Tracy Gee, Lunenburg County (V)

STAFF

Ms. Christin Jackson, Executive Director

Ms. Wendy Newton, Finance Director

Ms. Lauren Jones Pugh, Planning Director

Mr. Tyler Henderson, Regional Planner

Ms. Monica Frisby, Regional Planner

GUESTS:

Mr. Tony Matthews, Kenbridge Town Manager

(V) Denotes attendees who participated virtually.

Approval of Minutes of August 21, 2024, Council Meeting:

Ms. Emert moved, and Mr. Jones seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

July/August: Ms. Jackson requested we change the dates of the financial report to the calendar month instead of the dates from the previous council meeting to the next council meeting to give a better idea of what the CRC's current finances are. Mr. Emert motioned for the change, and Mr. Jones seconded to approve the change to the calendar month. Motion carried. Mr. Harkins stated he had reviewed the financial report and found everything to be in order. Mr. Walker moved, and Mr. Jones seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Report of Officers, Committees & Executive Director:

Chairman's Report: Mr. Harkins stated he was on the VAPDC board, and they meet every two months. Mr. Harkins stated the next meeting was scheduled for September 11, 2024. Mr. Harkins stated that January 23, 2025, was VACO (Virginia Association of Counties) Day. He stated it is a wonderful way to lobby with local government officials.

Executive Director Monthly Activities Report: Ms. Jackson stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Jackson stated she worked with Ms. Pugh on a quote for the Amelia Comp Plan. Ms. Jackson said she attended the Buckingham Comp Plan Meeting and the Lunenburg, Victoria, and Kenbridge Joint Comp Plan Meeting. Ms. Jackson said she met with Mr. Carter to review his expectations for the CRC and her new role as Executive Director. Ms. Jackson stated that she and Ms. Pugh met with Andy Wells from the Southside Planning District to discuss GIS training and/or assistance with upcoming maps. Ms. Jackson stated she discussed potential Cyber-Security training with Chris Ballard from VACORP. Ms. Jackson said she sent out emails regarding the training but has not received any responses yet. Ms. Jackson stated she did some research on Adobe Licenses and purchased the Standard Adobe for the office staff. Ms. Jackson stated she completed a FEMA Fire Fighters Grant Reimbursement for Prince Edward County for \$161,464.50 for the purchase of thermal imaging cameras. Ms. Jackson stated she had a VATI audit debrief with Christine Kline, and it went well. Ms. Jackson stated she spoke with Katie Vugdalic with VDEM and was able to get a payment of \$29,484.56 approved that Todd Fortune had been working on since November 2023. Ms. Jackson stated she wrote and submitted the new EDA grant to ensure our \$70,000 to use towards staff time to create our new CEDS. Ms. Jackson stated she and Ms. Pugh attended the NADO-Wealth Creation Summit in Greenville, SC. Ms. Jackson stated she participated in the VAPDC Training Session #2 on The VA Legislative Process. Ms. Jackson stated she created a spreadsheet on the last five years of grants per county at the request of Mr. Hankins. Ms. Jackson stated she presented the VHREDA at the VAPDC's Annual Meeting. Ms. Jackson stated she spoke with Dr. Melba Moore about how the CRC can help Crossroads in grant writing. Ms. Jackson stated she accepted the 2023 FEMA Fire Fighters Award for Prince Edward County for \$990,761.90. Ms. Jackson stated she met with Lauren Stuhldreher from the EDA to help her better understand the grant opportunities for our localities and applying for them.

Scoping the Future - Discussion of Innovative/Regional Ideas: There were no comments.

Old Business:

Staff Monthly Project Reports:

Update on Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Phase III: Ms. Frisby stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Frisby stated the CRC staff have been researching and sending along grant opportunities to localities. Ms. Frisby stated CRC staff met with Linda Eanes, Cumberland County 4-H Extension Agent, and set a date to host the rain barrel workshop on August 15th to a homeschool group in Cumberland County with about twenty students. Ms. Frisby stated the CRC staff corresponded with Nottoway County Extension Agents, Terry Abston and Lye Currin to discuss the incorporation of a Rain Barrel Program into the curriculum of an agriculture class this fall at Nottoway County High School. Mr. Hankins suggested contacting Lunenburg connections about the rain barrel workshop and Ms. Frisby stated she would.

Update on Buckingham County Comprehensive Plan Update: Mr. Henderson stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Mr. Henderson stated that in the August 19th Planning Commission Work Session only minor revisions were made to Section 6 "Special Policy Areas". Mr. Henderson said at the next Work Session they will work on Objective and Strategies.

Update on Lunenburg County Comprehensive Plan Update: Mr. Henderson stated that a report was included in the Council Packet. Mr. Henderson stated that the Lunenburg County Comprehensive Plan Joint Working Committee would like the Comprehensive plan to be completed by January 2025. Mr. Henderson stated the next working committee is scheduled for September 5th at 4:00 pm.

Update on CRC Affordable Workforce Housing Development Program: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh said the land clearing for Ashley Way homes in Keysville is currently taking place. Ms. Pugh stated four of the five homes have been completed at Cardinal Homes and are awaiting delivery. The final family was selected and are applying for USDA funding for their mortgage. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC was working with Southside Homes in Cumberland County on a build as well. Ms. Jones stated the first step is scheduling demolition of the existing structure on the site. Ms. Pugh said all seven Smyth Property housing units are complete and are accepting rental applicants for these housing units. Ms. Pugh stated the Town of Blackstone/Southside Outreach are currently working with the homeowners to close on the property. Ms. Pugh stated the Town of Blackstone has executed the agreement to build the additional homes with the remaining PDC Housing Funds.

Update on Kenbridge and Charlotte County Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation (ESHPP) Fund Projects: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh stated the Charlotte County Courthouse Complex project has been completed. Ms. Pugh stated after reviewing the updated preservation trust agreement, Charlotte County found this agreement to be in order and is still waiting for it to be mailed to them for signature. Ms. Pugh said the CRC staff contacted DHR staff to see this document's status. Once received the document will be signed and recorded at the Charlotte County Clerk's Office.

Update on VATI Grant for Cumberland, Lunenburg, and Prince Edward: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh said that as of August 5th, 2024, 7,201 passings (out of a target of 11,397 total passings) and 1,490 installations for new customers have been completed. Currently, Kinex and their contractors are currently working in Lunenburg and Prince Edward County. Ms. Pugh stated at the DHCD's staff request, CRC staff and Kinex collected financial documents to complete an audit on July 23rd. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff and Kinex did provide the documentation to complete the audit on the 23rd. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff and Kinex did receive a positive report, and the DHCD has requested some added documentation that the CRC and Kinex are currently working on. Ms. Pugh stated The Project Management Team meets monthly to discuss the project. The team includes local staff, CRC staff, Kinex staff, and DHCD staff. Ms. Pugh said the next meeting is scheduled for September 13th, 2024. Ms. Pugh stated by agreement with DHCD, CRC and local staff are making quarterly visits to observe the work being done by Kinex and their contractors. The next site visit will be in September, date to be decided. Ms. Pugh stated that Kinex is being bought by Planning Networks, a company outside of New Jersey. Ms. Pugh stated that a meeting with the CRC staff, County Administrators, DHCD staff, CEO of Planning Networks, and Mr. Garrett of Kinex will be held on August 29th to discuss the transition and updated MOU.

Update on Drakes Branch SLFRF Projects: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh stated that Melody completed the SLFRF annual report prior to her departure. Ms. Pugh stated the Town is still prioritizing how to spend the remaining SLFRF funds and that funds must be obligated by December 31st, 2024.

Update on Drakes Branch Building Acquisition Project: Ms. Pugh stated that the report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh stated a two-year extension request was filed with VDEM for this project because the original end date was October 16th, 2024. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff are working on assembling and submitting two reimbursement requests. Ms. Pugh stated the Town is unsure if Building 7 will participate in this project because it is privately owned. Ms. Pugh stated the Town was outbid on Building 8 and they are unsure if this private owner will participate in this project.

Update on CRC Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: Mr. Henderson stated that a report was included in

the Council packet. Mr. Henderson stated that FEMA Region III sent the approval letters and adopted resolutions for all eighteen localities in the Commonwealth Region to the CRC. Mr. Henderson stated the approval letters were forwarded to the localities via email on August 12th. Mr. Henderson stated the CRC staff will print plans out if the counties are interested.

Update on SEED Innovation Hub Project: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC has conducted a Davis Beacon Act on the Contractors' submitted certified payroll documents and the CRC staff assembled and submitted documentation for the second reimbursement request to the EDA. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff assembled and submitted documentation for the first reimbursement request to the Tobacco Commission. Ms. Pugh also stated the CRC staff assembled and submitted an extension letter to the Tobacco Commission to extend the grant from September 2024 to March 2025 to give the LUREF ample time to complete the project. Ms. McGuire said the SEED Innovation Hub was the best investment for the Longwood Real Estate Foundation. Ms. McGuire said the CRC staff had done an excellent job assembling and submitting grants, and that construction was ahead of schedule.

Update on CRC GO Virginia Grant – Development of Business Plan and Strategy for NEW REDO: Ms. Jackson stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Jackson stated the Public Investment requests have been confirmed by six of seven counties. Ms. Jackson stated she and Andy Brubaker attended a third meeting with Amelia County's EDA on July 13th to give another pitch for Amelia to invest. Amelia voted with a tie and the tie went to "No's" so Amelia will not be in the VHREDA. Ms. Jackson stated she and Andy Brubaker, either together or separate, made personal visits to potential Board Members on the suggestion of Dexter Gilliam last month. Ms. Jackson stated they visited Sheri McGuire, William McGuire, Shannon Feinman, Dexter Gilliam, Taylor Quicke, LeAnne Emert, Neal Burke, Faustine Dye, and Nick Patel. Ms. Jackson stated Andy made phone calls to Naj Patel and Barbara Byard. Ms. Jackson stated the first VHREDA Board Meeting was held virtually and in-person on July 13th, 2024. Ms. Jackson stated the board approved bylaws and elected officers. Ms. Jackson stated Steve Bowen is the Executive Director, Doug Stanley is the Vice Executive Director, Tracy Gee is the Secretary, and Dexter Gilliam is the Treasurer. Ms. Jackson stated the CRC will continue to support VHREDA with a person to take board minutes and do the treasurer's report. Ms. Jackson stated the next board meeting will be Monday, August 26th, 2024, at 9 am.

Update on Central Virginia Poultry Cooperative TRRC & AFID Grants: Ms. Frisby stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Frisby stated that the CRC has executed the Planning Grant agreement and the Rural Rehabilitation Trust agreement with VDACS. Ms. Frisby stated the CRC is working to assemble reimbursement for all the grants. Mr. Hankins asked the CRC to reach out to Taylor Harvie, to be on the CVPC board.

Update on Charlotte Court House Lead Service Project Update: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff prepared the bid document checklist, required documents, and shared this checklist with VDH staff for approval of procurement. Ms. Pugh said the VDH is in the process of approving the bid to award the contractor and once approved, Charlotte Court House can proceed with awarding the contractor.

Update on the Town of Crewe Downtown Revitalization Planning Grant: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council Packet. Ms. Pugh stated the Town Manager for Crewe selected to hire Hill Studio and their subcontractor, Arnett Muldrow & Associates, Ltd. as the firm to complete the scope of work for this grant. Ms. Pugh stated a kick-off meeting with community stakeholders, the project management team, and the consultant was held on August 20th to brainstorm the area for ideas to review in the study.

Update on the EDA Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program: Ms. Pugh stated that a report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff applied for the next round of Planning and Technical Assistance funds. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC assembled and submitted the final report and reimbursement requests for the remaining funds.

Update on the VDOT Rural Transportation Planning Program: Mr. Henderson stated that the report is included in the Council packet. Mr. Henderson stated the CRC staff have been actively engaged in professional and collaborative efforts in the region. Mr. Henderson stated the CRC staff forwarded a funding opportunity to regional leaders for systematic initiatives available through the Virginia Highway Safety Improvement Program for localities which own or maintain their own roads. Mr. Pugh stated the deadline for applications is October 31st.

Update on the SCRC, LDD Program: Mr. Henderson stated that the report is included in the Council packet. Mr. Henderson stated that the CRC received its first reimbursement from the SCRC LDD program. Mr. Henderson stated the CRC staff submitted a second request for reimbursement using the SCRC new online portal on July 31st. Mr. Henderson stated the CRC has exhausted all SCRC funds for the year.

New Business:

Staff Reports

Update on Grant Writing: Ms. Frisby stated a copy of the grant writing report was included in the Council packet. Ms. Frisby stated the CRC staff worked with the Town of Victoria on an application and submitted it to the VDOF Preservation Trust Fund to upgrade the recreational area and bridge on Modest Creek Reservoir. Ms. Frisby congratulated the Prince Edward Broadband Affordability and Adoption Planning Grant. Prince Edward was awarded \$175,000 to develop a regional plan to conduct needs assessments, identify priorities and develop plans with implementation strategies to address and promote digital opportunity within our region. Ms. Frisby stated the CRC staff assisted Lunenburg County and the Town of Victoria and Kenbridge on an application to DCR, Recreation Trails Grant Program to establish a trailhead and expand the Tobacco Heritage Trail. Ms. Frisby stated the grant was not awarded, and a review of the grant has been requested. Ms. Frisby congratulated the Prince Edward County Firefighters for the EMW-2023 FG-08035 Assistance to Firefighters Grant of \$990,761.90 for new equipment. Ms. Frisby stated the CRC has accepted this reward for them.

Projects on Standby (work undertaken as developments warrant): Ms. Frisby stated that the report is included in the Council packet. Ms. Frisby stated the CRC staff is working with the Longwood Real Estate Foundation on identifying potential grants to fund a position at the SEED Innovation Hub. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff met with the Chief from the Keysville Volunteer Fire Department to discuss grant opportunities for their department and the CRC staff is working with the Town of Victoria on a potential application to VOF Preservation Trust Fund to upgrade the recreational area and bridge on Modest Creek Reservoir. Mr. Hankins stated the inspected dam bridge at the lake is dangerous. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff is working with the Town of Kenbridge on a potential application to the VDOF Preservation Trust Fund for the land acquisition and construction of a trailhead for the Tobacco Heritage Trail. Ms. Pugh stated the CRC staff met with Mary E. Branch to discuss grant opportunities for the rehabilitation and renovation of the Mary E. Branch Elementary School in Farmville, VA. Ms. Pugh also stated the CRC staff is working with Crewe Volunteer Fire Department on a potential application to Firehouse Subs for a Gear Dryer for turnout gear and a

potential application to RSAF for a LUCAS Device. The next round of RSAF funds will open September 15th.

Closed Session: N/A

Council Member Comments: Mr. Hankins stated the VAPDC gave a Lifetime Legislative Achievement Award to Senator Frank M. Ruff, Jr. on July 31st. This is the first time the award has been given. Mr. Hankins said Senator Ruff put in a lot of effort over the years developing businesses for Southside Virginia.

Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRP): There were no comments.

Other Business:

Council Member Comments:

Adjournment, Next Meeting: The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m. The next meeting was set for Wednesday, September 18th, at the CRC's office at the Heartland Building in Keysville, Virginia.

Mr. David Emert, Secretary

Treasurer's Report - Cash on Hand & Account Balances

For the Period of August 1, 2024 thru August 31, 2024

<u>Cash on Hand</u>	<u>Period Ending</u>
Total Income	\$ 638,775.76
Total Expenses	\$ 545,812.28
Net Balance	\$ 92,963.48
Cash on Hand	\$ 1,026,360.84

Account Balances as of July 10, 2024

Truist 4425 (M1)	\$ 702,658.41
Truist 4301 (PR)	\$ 570.01
Truist 1827 (Oprtg)	\$ 15,483.74
Truist 7840 (VHREDA)	\$ 181.74
Benchmark (M2)	\$ 237,316.08
Benchmark (CD1)	\$ 55,101.56
Benchmark (CD2)	\$ <u>15,049.30</u>
	\$ 1,026,360.84

Prepared by: Wendy Newton, September 10, 2024

****Note:** Items 47060, 47070, 47080 and 47081 are Pass-Thru revenue funds for current grant projects and are not counted as income for the CRC. Corresponding expenses categories are 79036, 79045, 79046 & 79047.

*47060/79045 VH PDC Housing Program Funds

*47070/79036 VATI Regional Broadband Grant - We have received \$1,281,867.60 in funds,

*47080/79046 CRC REDO (GOVA Grant) *Reminder - the CRC committed \$10,000 to the CRC REDO Grant as cash match.*

*47081 CVPC AFID PG

COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

Budget vs. Actuals: FY_2024_2025 - FY25 P&L

August 2024

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income		
40000 Revenue		
43000 Local Member Investment		
43010 Amelia Local Member Investment	19,000.00	1,583.33
43020 Buckingham Local Member Investment	19,000.00	1,583.33
43030 Charlotte Local Member Investment	19,000.00	1,583.33
43040 Cumberland Local Member Investment	19,000.00	1,583.33
43050 Prince Ed Local Member Investment		1,583.33
43060 Lunenburg Local Member Investment	19,000.00	1,583.33
43095 Nottoway Local Member Investment	19,000.00	1,583.33
Total 43000 Local Member Investment	114,000.00	11,083.31
Total 40000 Revenue	114,000.00	11,083.31
44000 VA Regional Cooperation		9,580.92
45000 Project Funding		
45860 Prince Edward AFGS Grant Admin	1,000.00	
45880 CRC Regional Haz Mit Plan Updat		131.00
45955 PDC Housing Program	7,874.69	1,666.67
45985 VATI Regional Broadband Grant		1,758.33
45993 VATI Audit funds		333.33
45995 Drakes Branch VDEM Grant Admin		2,494.08
45996 Buckingham Comp Plan Update 23		2,083.33
45997 Lunenburg Comp Plan Update 24		2,083.33
45999 Longwood SEED Inn Hub Admin		1,993.50
46083 Drakes Branch Comp Plan Update		1,333.33
46084 CRC REDO Oversight & Fiscal Management		2,000.00
46085 CCH VDH Lead Service Line Admin		833.33
46086 Crewe PG CRC Admin		416.67
46087 SHSP Farmville Camera Admin		75.00
46088 VHREDA Private Campaign Costs Reimbursement		16,500.00
Total 45000 Project Funding	8,874.69	33,701.90
46000 Other Funding		
46005 DEQ 2021 CRC WIP II Assistance		4,833.33
46010 VDOT-Transport Planning		4,833.33
46040 Interest Income		66.67
46081 EDA Technical Assistance Fund	32,864.98	5,833.33
46082 SCRC LDD FUNds	23,070.74	2,750.00
Total 46000 Other Funding	55,935.72	18,316.66
47000 Pass Thru Fundds		
47070 VATI Broadband	459,965.35	
Total 47000 Pass Thru Fundds	459,965.35	
Total Income	\$638,775.76	\$72,682.79
Expenses		

COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

Budget vs. Actuals: FY_2024_2025 - FY25 P&L

August 2024

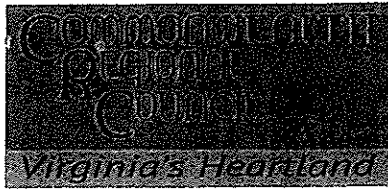
	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
71000 Personnel Costs		
71010 Salary Distribution	39,634.62	28,625.00
71040 Payroll Expenses (SS/FICA)		2,189.92
71150 Unemployment Ins.		11.00
71200 VRS Contribution	11,898.42	5,830.92
71300 Staff Memberships	50.00	
71350 Staff Train/Conference	1,790.03	1,291.67
71400 Workmens Comp Ins		41.67
71500 Group Health Insurance	322.15	2,916.67
71600 Life Insurance	13.20	22.92
71700 Other Staff Costs		151.17
71750 Employee Cell Phone Stipend	250.00	250.00
Total 71000 Personnel Costs	53,958.42	41,330.94
72000 Office Operations		
72005 Cleaning & Maint.-Bldg	800.00	416.67
72010 Lease Costs	1,200.00	1,200.00
72015 Utilities	823.06	350.00
72020 Telephone/Internet Costs	283.67	280.00
72030 Postage and Freight		100.00
72035 Express Mail		8.33
72040 Consumable Supplies	454.29	750.00
72050 Dues and Subscriptions	190.59	26.67
72060 Office Insurance		8.33
72070 Administrative Costs	2,490.00	1,750.00
72080 Office Costs - Other		250.00
Total 72000 Office Operations	6,241.61	5,140.00
73000 Office Equipment		
73010 Office Equipment		269.17
73030 Equipment Maintenance	488.80	891.67
73040 Equipment Repair		166.67
73050 Equipment - Other		358.33
Total 73000 Office Equipment	488.80	1,685.84
74000 Auto/Staff Travel		
74020 Staff Mileage	3,402.84	500.00
Total 74000 Auto/Staff Travel	3,402.84	500.00
75000 Meetings/Memberships		
75010 Council Meetings	90.74	468.33
75020 Committee Meetings		25.00
75030 Staff Meetings		33.33
75040 Council Memberships		350.00
75050 Other Meeting Costs		16.67
75060 Public Official Insurance Cov.		150.00

COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

Budget vs. Actuals: FY_2024_2025 - FY25 P&L

August 2024

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Total 75000 Meetings/Memberships	90.74	1,043.33
77000 Collateral Materials		
77010 Web Page Costs		216.67
Total 77000 Collateral Materials		216.67
78000 Local Relations		
78010 Newsletter/Annual Report		12.50
78030 Other		250.00
Total 78000 Local Relations		262.50
79000 Pass Thru Fund Expenses		
79036 VATI Broadband	459,965.35	
79045 VH PDC Hous Prog-Partner Expens	0.00	
Total 79000 Pass Thru Fund Expenses	459,965.35	
90000 Other Program Costs		
90010 Planning Project Costs		18,166.67
90011 EDA Other Costs	3,277.54	
90100 Contingency Costs		416.67
90101 New REDO Costs	15,354.93	
Total 90000 Other Program Costs	18,632.47	18,583.34
Payroll Expenses		
Taxes	3,032.05	
Total Payroll Expenses	3,032.05	
Total Expenses	\$545,812.28	\$68,762.62
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$92,963.48	\$3,920.17
NET INCOME	\$92,963.48	\$3,920.17



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The Counties of Amelia | Buckingham | Charlotte | Cumberland | Henric | Norfolk
Prince Edward

Memorandum

TO: CRC Board of Directors

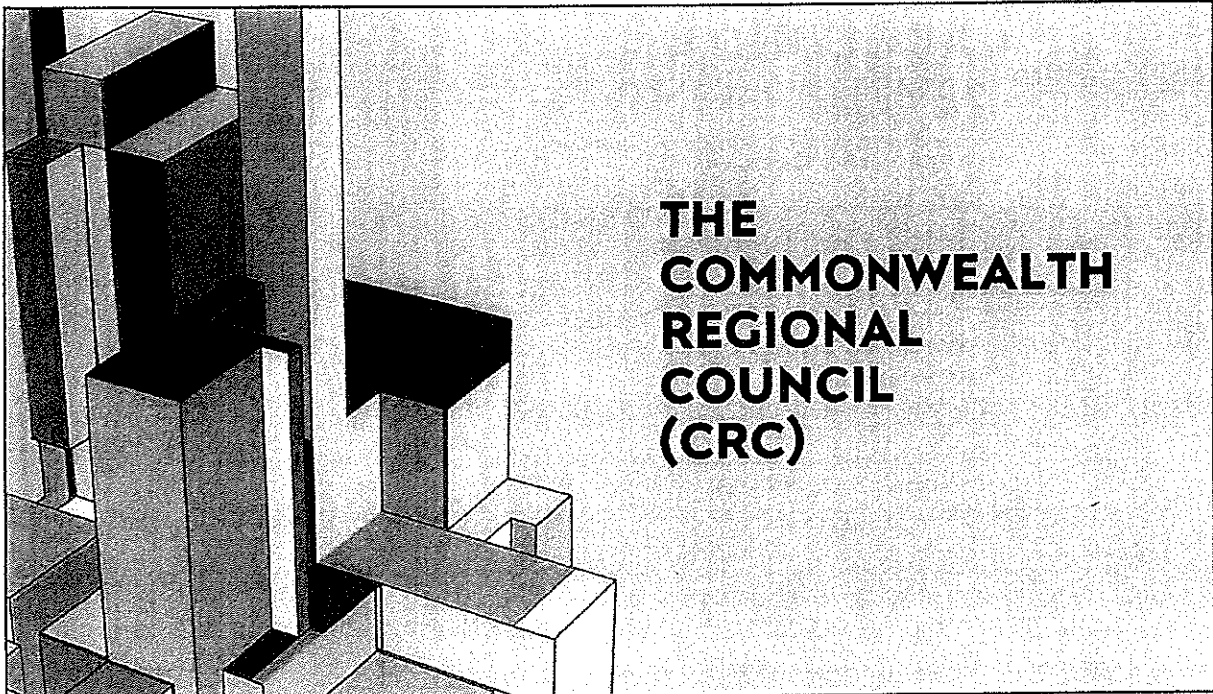
FROM: Christin Jackson
Interim Executive Director

DATE: September 18, 2024

SUBJECT: Update (August 14th, 2024 – September 10th, 2024)

- Met with Truist to discuss ways to have Working Capital – less checks, pay more with Credit Cards
- Received DHCD Regional Broadband Expansion Plan (\$165,000 of this will go to staff time for CRC)
- Submitted Direct Cost Certification Letter to EDA based on 2021, since there was no Direct Cost Schedule in 2022, having one done this year in the audit so that certification can be upgraded.
- Closed out Firefighter 2019 grant for PE County.
- Final submission of VDEM Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant
- Met with Andy Wells from Southside Planning District with staff for GIS training and suggestions for further implementation.
- Completed and submitted the Annual DHCD Report.
- Uploaded Hazard Mitigation Plan to our website.
- Worked on updates to the website such as board packets, helpful links, and social media pages.
- Went to Crater and met with Executive Director, Jay Ellington for insights on job.
- Had a kick-off meeting with DHCD on the Broadband Expansion Plan grant.
- Lauren and I talked to Greg Wolven, Town Manager of Burkeville, to offer our services.
- Gave a presentation at the Regional County Administrators meeting on: EDD Designation, REDO Update, Procurement of Solar Consultants, FEMA Hazard Mitigation, and VA Broadband Affordability and Adoption Planning Grant. (PowerPoint Included)
- Discussion with Melanie Harris from Letter Press about upgrades to the website.
- Attended the BOS meeting in Amelia where I introduced myself and was able to explain our MOU to create their Comp Plan and that was approved.
- Met with DHCD, County Administrators, Jim Garrett of Kinex, and Robert Boyle of Planet Networks to discuss how to move the VATI funding over to Planet Networks. Wrote the letter and sent it over to DHCD.
- Ordered Name Tags, Pens, and stick drives with CRC logo for marketing purposes, used Amazon rewards to pay all but approximately \$60.00 of it.
- Met with Sabrina Masters of STEPS about the Broadband Implementation Plan.
- Reallocated timesheets per new funding.
- Attended the Lunenburg, Kenbridge, and Victoria Comp Plan Meeting.
- Participated in the VAPDC training session on Communications and attended their Board Meeting.
- Participated in a NADO training on Single Audit Readiness.

COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL
200 Heartland Road
Keyesville, VA 23947 | 434-392-6104 PHONE
Fax: 434-392-5833



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COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL STAFF CONTACTS

- Christin Jackson - Executive Director - cjackson@virginiasheartland.org
- Wendy Newton - Finance Director - wnewton@virginiasheartland.org
- Lauren Pugh - Planning Director - lpugh@virginiasheartland.org
- Tyler Henderson - Regional Planner I and Title VI Coordinator - thenderson@virginiasheartland.org
- Monica Frisby - Regional Planner II - mfrisby@virginiasheartland.org

200 Heartland Road
Keysville, VA 23947
434-392-6104

A 3D bar chart graphic located on the right side of the slide. It features several bars of different heights and widths, rendered in a perspective view.

2

2

CRC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The CRC is one of the 13 out of the 21 Planning Districts that has an EDD Designation

What does this mean to our Region?

- More Funding Opportunities
 - Public Works Economic Adjustment Assistance
 - Infrastructure Improvement for Publicly Owned Up To Private sights
 - Rolling Applications
 - 50/50 Match for Most Counties, however Lunenburg and Prince Edward have a 60/40 Rate
 - Construction or Non-Construction
 - \$600,000 - \$3M
 - Examples: Roads, Waterways, and Sewer Lines
 - Construction or Renovation of Publicly owned building, but EDA will put a 20-year lean on the property



3

EDD CONTINUED

- Publicly owned that is leased to Private Industry for Workforce Training Facilities and Incubators
- EDA can match state funds with GOVA and the Tobacco Commission, but Federal Funds can only match with USDA Unforgivable Funds
- Used to Create/Update Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
 - 2025 is CRC's Five-year update
 - The CRC will be establishing a CEDS Committee in the upcoming months
 - We need volunteers
 - This living-document is the pathway to what our region will be able to do for the next Five Years, so we need to know what you need accomplished.
- All Localities Qualify for FY23 Disaster Funds
 - Based on Winter Storm 2021
 - Economic Resiliency or Natural Disaster Resiliency
 - Example: Waterline in Halifax based on how long power was out
 - Rural Health Care - Telehealth
 - Need for a Shelter and Remote Work Opportunities



4

EDD CONTINUED

- Feasibility Studies can be done with EDA Funds
- Site Development - \$126M for Preliminary Engineering Reports and Environmental Due Diligence Under Non-Construction Grants
- Studies on Redevelopment of a Site after an Employer Leaves to Entice New Opportunities
- The CRC can help apply for and administer any of these grant opportunities

5

5

VIRGINIA'S HEARTLAND REGIONAL ECONOMIC ALLIANCE (VHREDA)

Background:

- Prince Edward County came to the CRC with the proposal for the CRC to lead in the establishment of a Regional Economic Development Organization (REDO)
- CRC got an Enhanced Capacity Building Grant from GOVA
- CRC hired consultants to assist the CRC staff, CRC REDO Working Committee, and the CRC Advisory Board to complete a feasibility study which resulted that the REDO was a viable option.

6

VHREDA CONTINUED

What needs to be new:

- VHREDA will be partially publicly funded and partially privately funded
- VHREDA will not only focus on new business opportunities, but it will focus on the current businesses in the region to assist with expansion and resilience.
- CRC hired a consultant to assist with the Private Investment Campaign
 - Case for Investment - Five-year plan
 - Return on Investment - What this will bring to the region

Currently VHREDA is Establishing a Board of Directors:

- The first meeting was August 13, 2024
 - Everyone on the Board is an Investor
 - Six out of the Seven Counties of the Region Participated (Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward)
 - Longwood University and Southside Virginia Community College Representatives are on the Board
 - Representatives from Three Local Banks
 - Two Private Business Owners
 - Two Representatives from our legal team.
 - Officers were Elected
 - Bylaws were Approved

7

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VHREDA CONTINUED

Second VHREDA Board Meeting was held August 26th, 2024

- Meetings will be Hybrid on the Fourth Thursday of each Month at 10:00 A. M.
- The Fiscal Year will be July 1st - June 30th to Match the Counties
- All Board Members will Send Potential Investors to Convergent before the next meeting.
- The Executive Director Search Committee will be made up of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Board Members
- An Insurance Policy was approved and will be bought for VHREDA through VAcop

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8

PROCUREMENT OF SOLAR CONSULTANTS, ENGINEERS, AND INSPECTORS

CRC has an agreement with eleven consulting agencies. Of those agencies, four of them do work with Solar Projects. Because of this agreement, any of our localities can use these consultants without having to put out a Request for Proposals.

Consultant	Site Plan Review	On-Site Water Supply & Well-Inspection	Performance Bond-Review/Evaluation	Grading Plan-Review/Evaluation	Grading Bond-Review/Evaluation	SWAMP-Review, Inspection, & Monitoring	SWAMP Bond-Review/Evaluation	ES&C Plan-Review, Inspection, & Monitoring	ES&C Bond-Review/Evaluation	Groundwater Studies for Construction Review & Inspection	Landscaping and Screening Plan-Review & Inspection	Landscaping and Screening Bond-Review/Evaluation	Pollinator-Friendly Plants, Shrubs, Trees, and Wildflower Plan-Review & Inspection	Habitat Land Application Plan-Review & Inspection	Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan-Review & Re-evaluation	Other Services Offered	
Hunt & Profit	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	Cultural Resources documentary/photo reviews	
Berkley Group	YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	It is not aware of the policy they used a subcontractor partner	
Diaper/Adin	YES	Thorough SUP	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	Thorough Sub	Thorough Sub	YES & Thorough Sub	YES & Thorough Sub	Able to provide the services in agricultural
TRC	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	STRUCTURE REVIEW

PROCUREMENT OF SOLAR CONSULTANTS, ENGINEERS, AND INSPECTORS

CRC has an agreement with eleven consulting agencies. Of those agencies, four of them do work with Solar Projects. Because of this agreement, any of our localities can use these consultants without having to put out a Request for Proposals.

Consultant	Project Phases										Key Deliverables					Overall Status		
	Initiation	Planning	Execution	Monitoring	Closing	Post-Mortem	Reporting	Documentation	Communication	Resource Management	Quality Assurance	Risk Management	Stakeholder Engagement	Change Management	Project Closure	Overall Progress	Health	Notes
Client A	100%	90%	85%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%	10%	5%	3%	2%	1%	0%	85%	Green	On track
Client B	100%	100%	95%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%	10%	5%	3%	2%	1%	90%	Yellow	Minor delays
Client C	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client D	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client E	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client F	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client G	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client H	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client I	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client J	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client K	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client L	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client M	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client N	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client O	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client P	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client Q	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client R	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client S	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client T	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client U	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client V	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client W	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client X	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client Y	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed
Client Z	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Green	Completed

CRC ON-CALL CONSULTANT PROGRAM

COMMONWEALTH
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) has instituted an On-Call Consultant Program for professional services that are available to all CRC localities, including townships and subsidiary agencies (i.e., County School Boards and Industrial Development Authorities.)

The CRC On-Call Consultant Program was instituted to save time and money, so that a Request for Proposals (RFP) does not need to be submitted each time these types of services are requested. If professional services from any of the below firms are needed, you can enter into a cooperative agreement. All localities are responsible for discussing the scope of work, pricing negotiations, and payment to the firm selected.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact:

Christin Jackson
Executive Director- CRC
cjackson@virginiashheartland.org
434-392-6104 ext. 202

Lauren Jones Pugh
Planning Director
lpugh@virginiashheartland.org
434-392-6104 ext. 203

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EXECUTIVE SERVICES

WE HAVE A TEAM OF SEASONED PROFESSIONALS WITH EXPERTISE IN INTERIM ASSISTANCE, EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT, ORGANIZATIONAL STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT, RETREATS, STRATEGIC PLANNING, AND MUCH MORE

EDUCATION

WE SUPPORT SCHOOL SYSTEMS WITH EXECUTIVE COACHING, JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT, TEAM BUILDING, AND STAFF WORKSHOPS.

HUMAN RESOURCES

WE TAKE A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO EVERY PROJECT, BALANCING OUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE AND BEST PRACTICES. WE OFFER PAY AND CLASSIFICATION STUDIES, PERSONNEL POLICY SUPPORT, EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT, AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES.

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

THE BERKLEY GROUP BELIEVES IN HELPING COMMUNITIES BECOME THRIVING, RESILIENT PLACES THAT PEOPLE ARE PROUD TO CALL HOME. WE SPECIALIZE IN LONG-RANGE PLANNING, ZONING, GIS, THIRD-PARTY LAND USE REVIEWS, ONGOING STAFF SUPPORT, HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING, RESILIENCY, PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND GROUP FACILITATION.

PUBLIC SAFETY


WE ASSIST PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES WITH ACCREDITATION, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, HIRING, ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENTS, PROMOTIONAL PROCESSES, POLICY DEVELOPMENT (E.G. SCHOOL SECURITY/ACTIVE SHOOTER), RECRUITMENT, AND TRAINING

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

WE ARE COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS. BASED ON YOUR NEEDS, WE CAN HELP MATCH YOU WITH PROVIDERS - WE RECOMMEND AND ENDORSE - TO IMPROVE OPERATIONS AND INCREASE EFFICIENCIES.



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Planning
Our wide-range planning expertise ensures your project starts off right and stays on track.

Field Services and Inspection
We leverage substantial staffing resources and an impressive array of tools and technologies to guide project success.

Engineering
Innovative engineering to create relevant, sustainable and tech-enabled solutions.

Procurement and Construction
Managing your most complex projects to keep them on track and on budget.

Operation and Consulting
A wide spectrum of expertise to help optimize your business for the 21st century.

Environmental, Health and Safety Management
We proactively manage our clients' EH & S business risk and identify solutions that create business value.

Regulatory and Environmental Compliance
TRC is responsive to the complete range of EH&S service requirements throughout the life cycle of your project.


Remediation & Materials Management
TRC provides life cycle environmental engineering and remediation services to help grow the value of your real estate.

Emergency Management and Response
We provide effective emergency support that minimizes cost and length of the response.

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Services include:

- Engineering
- Surveying
- Environmental Consulting
- Geotechnical
- Materials Testing & Inspection
- OIS
- Cultural Resource Management
- Economic Development
- Pipeline Inspections



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All Services

- Architecture
- Construction Materials Testing & Special Inspections (CMT/SI)
- Construction Services
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Industrial Coatings
- Landscape Architecture
- Land Development
- Maintenance Management
- Planning
- Structural Engineering
- Surveying & Geomatics
- Traffic/ITS Systems
- Transportation Design
- Water Resources



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MOSELEY ARCHITECTS

Services

Moseley Architects provide professional architectural, engineering, and interior design solutions to clients seeking responsive and reliable planning and design services, as well as specialized expertise. We understand that great design is only one component of a project's success and strive to deliver high-quality, value-based, and timely service for projects both large and small. Our architects, engineers, interior designers, and other professionals collaborate within a unified, multi-disciplinary studio setting. This approach, facilitated by innovative building information modeling (BIM) technology, results in integrated designs tailored to our clients' needs and priorities.

ARCHITECTURE

ENGINEERING

INTERIOR DESIGN

CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION

SECURITY SYSTEM DESIGN

SUSTAINABLE AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE DESIGN

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COMMUNITY PLANNING
Enhancing communities and bringing people together

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
Creating quality outdoor environments

ARCHITECTURE
Shaping the places we live, work, and play


HISTORIC PRESERVATION
Saving and restoring heritage

The logo for Hill Studio, featuring a stylized landscape illustration to the left of the text "HILL STUDIO".


17

AMT is a full-service firm that offers a vast array of services to our clients. These services involve studying, planning, shaping and ensuring successful completion of construction projects.

- ❖ Site/Civil
- ❖ Landscape Architecture & Design
- ❖ Survey/SUE/ GIS
- ❖ Environmental & Water Resources
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ CM/CEI
- ❖ Alternative Project Delivery

The logo for AMT, consisting of the letters "AMT" in a bold, sans-serif font.

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EPR, P.C. (EPR) is a Virginia based multidisciplinary firm focused on the integration of transportation, land use, and community design to create effective and lasting plans and designs for our clients. Founded in 2011, EPR's staff brings expertise in transportation and traffic engineering, land use and transportation planning, urban design, and civil engineering to clients across the Mid-Atlantic and southeast.

- ✓ Community Planning
- ✓ Comprehensive Planning
- ✓ Transportation Planning
- ✓ Transportation Engineering
- ✓ Reserve Studies

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Our Services + Portfolio

- Strategic Consulting
- Storytelling
- Design and Visual Branding
- Advertising
- Public Relations

LETTERPRESS COMMUNICATIONS

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Maxey & Associates, P.C. has been providing services in the fields of planning, site engineering, municipal utility engineering, land surveying, project administration and project management throughout our history. Our team is highly experienced and works with leading edge technology to complete work in a precise and timely fashion. We are committed to providing our clients with the highest quality of work, within budget and time schedules.

- Administration and Management Services
- Planning
- Engineering
- Land Surveying



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Since 1953, our practices have been rooted in the same ideals: enhancing the beauty, safety, and functionality of our contemporary world. Whether you're looking for expertise in creating your next project or for guidance with an existing endeavor, our teams are strategically positioned to help you achieve every level of your project needs while keeping your vision and values at the forefront of our partnership.

- Site Engineering & Planning
- Environmental Services
- Infrastructure Design
- Land Surveying
- Power Engineering
- Economic Development
- Geotechnical & CMT Services
- Structural Engineering
- Landscape Architecture



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REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (HMP) 2024

The HMP serves as a blueprint for local governments within Planning District Commission (PDC) 14, guiding in mitigating risks from natural and man-made hazards. It aims to protect human life, property, and the environment by identifying vulnerabilities and proposing effective strategies.

Components:

- Risk Assessment
 - Identifies potential hazards (floods, earthquakes, etc.).
 - Assesses the likelihood and impact of these hazards.
- Vulnerability Analysis
 - Evaluates the susceptibility of critical infrastructure and populations.
 - Highlights areas most at risk.
- Mitigation Strategies
 - Proposes both structural (e.g., flood defenses) and non-structural (e.g., land use planning) actions.
 - Prioritizes actions based on risk and feasibility.

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HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN COMPONENTS CONTINUED

Components

- Community Involvement
 - Engages stakeholders from local governments, businesses, and residents.
 - Ensures the plan reflects community needs and priorities.
- Implementation and Maintenance
 - Provides a framework for executing and regularly updating the plan.
 - Includes monitoring progress and revising strategies as necessary.

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HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN CONTINUED BENEFITS

- Enhanced Public Safety
 - Reduces the risk of injuries and fatalities during disasters.
 - Improves emergency preparedness and response capabilities.
- Protection of Property
 - Prevents damage to homes and infrastructure.
 - Offers potential insurance benefits through compliance.
- Economic Stability
 - Supports business continuity and job protection.
 - Ensures quicker recovery after disasters.
- Access to Federal Funding
 - Makes localities eligible for federal grants and disaster recovery funds.
- Improved Infrastructure Resilience
 - Promotes stronger, more disaster-resilient infrastructure.
 - Reduces long-term repair and replacement costs.

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HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN BENEFITS CONTINUED

- Environmental Protection
 - Encourages sustainable practices and natural resource preservation.
- Community Engagement and Awareness
 - Raises awareness of local hazards and empowers residents to reduce risks.
- Legal and Regulatory Compliance
 - Ensures compliance with federal and state regulations, avoiding penalties.
- Interagency and Regional Cooperation
 - Fosters collaboration and resource sharing among local governments.
- Long-Term Community Resilience
 - Promotes sustainable development and continuous improvement of the plan.

A Copy of Planning District 14's Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan is Displayed on the CRC
Website: www.virginiasheartland.org

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DHCD'S REGIONAL BROADBAND AFFORDABILITY AND ADOPTION PLANNING GRANT

- Prince Edward County will be the Fiscal Agent
- The Commonwealth Regional Council will be the Consultant
- Planning Period is from September 4th, 2024 – April 30th, 2025.
- There will be a Project Management Team made up of Stakeholders from all Counties in the Region
- There will be Community Meetings and a Survey to Establish Need and Asset Inventory
- With Data from the above activities and collaboration with the Project Management Team, the CRC will Create the Plan for the Region
- There will be Monitoring and Reporting throughout the Nine Months
- Please let me know if you would like to be on the Project Management Team or Host a Community Meeting

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UPCOMING TRAININGS OFFERED BY THE CRC

Commonwealth Regional Council eVA/Procurement Virtual Training
September 24, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- A. Welcome - Introduction - Kimberly Mitchell, Procurement Manager, Policy Consulting and Review, VA Department of General Services
- B. Opening Remarks
- C. Requesting eVA Access
- D. eVA Demos
 - 1. Creating a Sourcing Project/Solicitation
 - 2. Issuing an Addendum to a Solicitation
 - 3. Receiving/Reviewing Electronic Responses from Suppliers
 - 4. Awarding a Solicitation
 - 5. Placing a State Contract Order
 - 6. Searching for NIGP Codes
 - 7. Searching for Suppliers by NIGP Code
 - 8. Accessing eVA Training Resources
- A. Question/Answer Session

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UPCOMING TRAININGS OFFERED BY CRC CONTINUED

- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Training
 - September 26th, 2024, from 10:00-12:00
 - The Presenter is Alan Gernhart, Esq., Executive Director, VA FOIA Advisory Council
 - In-person at The CRC Office, 200 Heartland Road, Keysville, VA 23947
 - All participating will receive a FOIA Certificate
- Potential the CRC is looking into a Cyber-security Preparedness Training
 - Offered by Vacorp
 - Either Virtual or In-person
 - CRC has sent out a recorded version, waiting on responses from localities

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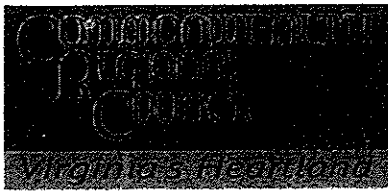
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Any Final Questions?

THANK YOU

CHRISTIN JACKSON
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CRC
CJACKSON@VIRGINIASHEARTLAND.ORG
 434-391-4876

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The Counties of Amelia | Buckingham | Charlotte | Cumberland | Lunenburg
Norfolk | Prince Edward

Scoping the Future List of Innovative/Regional Ideas

Ideas Previously Discussed:

- Creation of New Regional Economic Development Initiative – Currently Working on VHREDA
- Building Entrepreneurial Economies (BEE) Grant Program through DHCD
- Aeronautical Grants for Drone Industry
- Triage Emergency Dispatch Program
- Lack of Work Force Training - Ways for CRC to get involved, including working with Southern VA Go Region & SVCC
- Work with the Buckingham Historical Society on grant opportunities
- Establish de-regulation requirements for mandates on rural localities (tiered approach).
- Broadband Support by the CRC – Currently working on VATI and will all counties through the DHCD Broadband Affordability and Adoption Planning grant.
- Expand Health Care Providers in the Region as well as Cancer Treatment Facilities
- Aging Plan for the Region (grants to develop)
- High Bridge Trail State Park Expansion to Burkeville

New Ideas:

- _____
- _____

Note: Items stricken through have been addressed or pursued.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The College of Apples | Buckingham | Charlotte | Cumberland | Lunenburg |
Nottoway | Prince Edward

MEMORANDUM:

TO: CRC Council Members
FROM: Monica H. Frisby, Regional Planner
DATE: September 9, 2024
SUBJECT: Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) III (Contract VI) – Monthly Update

As you are aware, the Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) has been assisting the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in the implementation of Phase III of its Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP). The following activities have taken place since the last CRC Council meeting.

- Activities undertaken so far, include:
 - Researching and sending out grant opportunities to localities.
 - Researching opportunities for the CRC to assist in documenting BMP activities in the region in the DEQ BMP warehouse.
 - CRC staff worked with Linda Eanes, Cumberland County 4-H Extension Agent, to host the rain barrel workshop for August 15th to a homeschool group in Cumberland County. Ten students attended.
 - CRC staff coordinated with Nottoway County Extension Agents Terry Abston, Lyle Currin, and Richard Rash (agriculture teacher at Nottoway High School) to integrate the Rain Barrel Program into the agriculture curriculum. The program will take place on September 19th and 25th, and October 17th and 31st, focusing on both programming and the construction of rain barrels at Nottoway County High School.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH The Counties of Amelia | Buckingham | Charlotte | Cumberland
Lunenburg | Nottoway | Prince Edward

MEMORANDUM

TO: Karl Carter, County Administrator
Members of the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Tyler Henderson
Regional Planner

DATE: September 9, 2024

SUBJECT: Buckingham County Comprehensive Plan Update – Monthly Update

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is assisting Buckingham County with an update of the County's Comprehensive Plan. As part of the CRC's efforts to assist the County, the following is a summary of what has occurred since the last update in May:

- CRC staff attended the Planning Commission Regular Meeting on August 19th. At this meeting, the revised draft of the update to Section 5 (Land Use) and the initial draft of Section 6 (Special Policy Areas) were presented. The Commission requested minor revisions to both drafts.
- The next Planning Commission Work Session is scheduled for September 16th. At that meeting, the Commission will review the revisions to Section 5 and Section 6.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Christin Jackson, Executive Director, CRC
Nicci Edmonston, Zoning/Planning Administrator, Buckingham County

COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL
200 Heartland Drive
Keysville, VA 22947 | 434-392-5104
www.virginiashheartland.org



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH The Counties of Amelia | Southampton | Charlotte | Cumberland
Lunenburg | Mecklenburg | Prince Edward

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tracy Gee, Lunenburg County Administrator
Rodney Newton, Victoria Town Manager
Tony Matthews, Kenbridge Town Manager
Members of the Lunenburg County Board of Supervisors
Members of Victoria Town Council
Members of Kenbridge Town Council

FROM: Tyler Henderson
Regional Planner

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Lunenburg County Comprehensive Plan Update – Monthly Update

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is assisting Lunenburg County, Victoria, and Kenbridge on an update to their Joint Comprehensive Plan. As part of the CRC's efforts to assist the County and Towns, the following is a summary of activities completed to date:

- CRC staff attended the Joint Comprehensive Plan Working Committee work session on September 5th. At this meeting, the revised draft of the update to the Land Use Section and the initial draft of the update to the Special Policy Areas section were presented. Due to time constraints, the Joint Working Committee was able to review the Land Use Section and Special Policy Areas up to Area #6 out of 9 in the draft. The Committee has agreed to provide feedback via email on the remaining Special Policy Areas by Friday, September 13th.
- The next Joint Comprehensive Plan Working Committee work session is scheduled for 4:00 pm on October 3rd at the Victoria Town Hall. At this meeting, CRC staff will present the suggested revisions to the drafts of the Land Use and Special Policy Areas sections, and the initial draft of the update to the Goals, Objectives, and Strategies section, as well as the update to the Demographics section.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Christin Jackson, Executive Director, CRC



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MEMORANDUM:

TO: CRC Representatives

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh, Planning Director

SUBJECT: CRC Affordable Workforce Housing Development Program

DATE: September 10, 2024

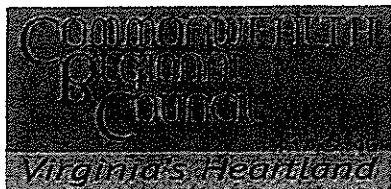
As you are aware the CRC has received \$2 million in grant funds from Virginia Housing to establish 20 affordable and workforce housing units in the CRC region **over a 48-month period (extended to June 30, 2025)**. CRC staff time on the project is also covered by this grant award.

Project: The Affordable Workforce Housing Development Program has established three housing partners: Piedmont Habitat for Humanity, Smyth Properties, and The Town of Blackstone. Piedmont Habitat will be installing 12 modular homes in Cumberland County and the Towns of Farmville, Keysville, and Crewe. Smyth Properties established seven (7) units for lease through adaptive reuse of downtown properties in Kenbridge. The Town of Blackstone and their partner, Southside Outreach, will be building six (6) homes in Blackstone for home ownership. Through these partners the CRC has been able to establish 25 affordable housing units.

Update:

- Piedmont Habitat:
 - Ashley Way homes in Keysville – The land clearing has been completed. The foundation of one of the five homes have been completed. The homes have been completed at Cardinal Homes and are awaiting delivery.
 - Cumberland- The family is currently applying with USDA.
- Smyth Properties – All seven housing units are complete and all seven units are occupied. CRC staff are working with the Smyths on completing a Deed of Trust on both properties.
- Town of Blackstone/ Southside Outreach –The homes on S. Dillard Street and E. Broad Street have been completed. Southside Outreach is working with the homeowners to close on the property. The Town of Blackstone has executed the agreement to build the additional three homes with the remaining PDC Housing funds.

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TO: CRC Council Members

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Funds (ESHP)
Town of Kenbridge and Charlotte County Project Update

DATE: September 10, 2024

Project: The CRC is assisting Charlotte County and the Town of Kenbridge with grant administration of the two grant funded projects.

Project Synopsis: Kenbridge Town Hall Repairs Project – grant funds will be utilized to repair the Kenbridge Town Hall which was damaged during Hurricane Micheal. Charlotte County Courthouse Complex Drainage project – grant funds will be utilized to address moisture issues for the Charlotte Court House Complex that flooded and was damaged during Hurricane Micheal.

Project Update:

Kenbridge Town Hall Repairs Project: The grant is complete and closed out.

Charlotte County Court House Complex Drainage Project: All work for the project has been completed and the grant has been closed out. DHR staff updated and shared the Preservation Agreement with County staff. After the review of the updated document, Charlotte County has found this agreement to be in order and has requested the document be mailed to them for signature. Charlotte County staff is still waiting for the document to be mailed. The CRC staff has reached out multiple times to DHR staff for the status of this document. Once received, the document will be signed and recorded at the Charlotte County's Clerks office.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: CRC Council Members

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh
Planning Director

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Grant for Cumberland,
Lunenburg, and Prince Edward Counties – Monthly Update

Project: CRC VATI grant for the expansion of broadband in Cumberland, Lunenburg, and Prince Edward Counties. The project involves working with Kinex Telcom, a local internet service provider.

Update:

- Kinex and their contractors continue to work on laying down middle-mile fiber in unserved areas of all three counties.
- Kinex crews are working in parts of all three counties where middle-mile fiber is in place to complete installations for new customers. James Garrett, Kinex Telecom, has advised that Kinex continues to work on addressing the existing backlog for new installations.
- As of August 10, 2024, a total of 7,334 passings (out of a target of 11,397 total passings) and 1,490 installs for new customers have been completed.
- VATI Audit update –At DHCD's staff request, CRC staff and Kinex collected financial documents to complete an audit on July 23rd. CRC and Kinex did provide the documentation to complete the audit on the 23rd. CRC and Kinex did receive an overall positive report. DHCD has requested some additional documentation, which the CRC and Kinex did provide.
- The Project Management Team meets monthly to discuss the project. The team includes local staff, CRC staff, Kinex staff, and DHCD staff. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2024
- Per an agreement with DHCD, CRC and local staff are making quarterly site visits to observe the work being done by Kinex and their contractors. CRC, Prince Edward County, and Kinex staff completed a site visit on June 17th in Prince Edward County. The CRC plans to have another site visit this month.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Christin Jackson, Executive Director, CRC

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MEMORANDUM

TO: CRC Council Members

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh
Planning Director

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Update – Drakes Branch Building Acquisition Project

As you may recall, the Town of Drakes Branch has been awarded a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grant by FEMA through VDEM to fund the acquisition and removal of nine (9) buildings in the Town's Central Business District. These buildings are located within the floodplain and are subject to damage from flood events in the area. The HMGP grant is being matched with a combination of funds from the State and local matching funds from the Town. The CRC is assisting the Town with the implementation of this project.

Update: CRC staff has prepared bid documents to bid out the lead and asbestos abatement work and will be posting the IFB on eVA and in the newspaper later this week. The Town (with CRC assistance) will be hosting a pre-bid conference on September 30th at 10am at the Drakes Branch Town Hall. The Bids will close on October 15th at 3pm.

- Building 1: Privately owned property
 - The property owner has opted out, and will not be participating in the project.
- Buildings 2 and 3: Old Town Hall and fire station
 - Appraisals completed.
 - Title searches completed.
 - Hurt & Proffitt (H&P) conducted lead and asbestos inspections of these properties. The inspection has been completed. H&P has provided the inspections reports and the reports determined that lead and asbestos have been identified.
- Building 4: Privately owned property
 - Appraisal completed.
 - Title search completed.
 - The owner has signed an agreement to sell the property to the Town. The sale has been completed. CRC staff are working to submit a reimbursement request for this sale to VDEM.
 - Hurt & Proffitt (H&P) conducted lead and asbestos inspections of these properties. The inspection has been completed. H&P has provided the inspections reports and the reports determined that lead and asbestos have been identified.

- Buildings 5 and 6: Privately owned, adjoining buildings, same owner
 - Appraisals completed.
 - Title searches completed.
 - The owner has not decided if they will be selling the property, therefore we are unsure if the building will participate in the project.
 - Hurt & Proffitt (H&P) conducted lead and asbestos inspections of these properties. The inspection has been completed. H&P has provided the inspections reports and the reports determined lead and asbestos have been identified.

- Building 7: Privately owned property
 - Property owner has opted out, and will not be participating in the project.

- Building 8: Privately owned property
 - Appraisal completed.
 - Title search completed.
 - Property has tax liens. The County has referred the property to Tax Authority Consulting Services (TACS), a Henrico County-based firm that assists local governments in collection, bankruptcy, and assessment matters, for a tax sale on the property. Staff from TACS conducted a tax auction on the property on June 17th. The Town was outbid on the property; therefore, we are unsure if this building will participate in this project.
 - Hurt & Proffitt (H&P) conducted lead and asbestos inspections of these properties. The inspection has been completed. H&P has provided the inspections reports and the reports determined that asbestos have been identified

- Building 9: Privately owned property
 - Appraisal completed.
 - Title search completed.
 - The sale of this property has been completed.
 - Hurt & Proffitt (H&P) conducted lead and asbestos inspections of these properties. The inspection has been completed. H&P has provided the inspections reports and the reports determined that asbestos have been identified.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Christin Jackson



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MEMORANDUM

TO: CRC Council Members

FROM: Tyler Henderson
Regional Planner

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Update of Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan – Monthly Update

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) has completed the update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, which covers all seven counties in Planning District 14 and their respective 11 towns. The project was funded by a FEMA grant through the Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC) program, with in-kind contributions (staff hours) provided by all seven counties and the Town of Farmville as a match for the grant.

Update: Since the last council update, CRC has made significant progress. The complete 722-page Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been uploaded to the CRC website, where it can be viewed and downloaded at:

<https://www.virginiashheartland.org/our-services/regional-emergency-planning/crcs-regional-hazard-mitigation-plan/>.

We have also purchased USB drives containing the plan for distribution to localities that may face technical limitations or difficulties in downloading the files.

In addition, we have started developing a custom GPT tool to help users easily navigate the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This tool will allow localities to access various sections of the plan, helping with a range of needs, including:

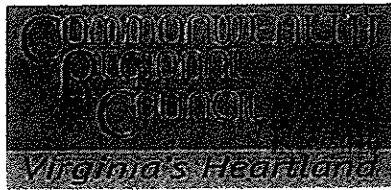
- Retrieve county-specific risk assessments for hazards such as floods, hurricanes, and wildfires.
- Access mitigation strategies and projects tailored to their jurisdiction's needs.
- Find information on federal and state funding opportunities to support hazard mitigation efforts.
- Review emergency response plans and coordinated action steps for different disaster scenarios.
- Understand regulatory requirements for compliance with federal and state hazard mitigation standards.
- Access historical disaster data to inform future planning efforts.

These are just a few examples of the many ways localities can use the GPT to make the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan more accessible and actionable. The tool is designed to offer clear, quick, and relevant insights, helping localities navigate and implement the plan more effectively.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Christin Jackson, Executive Director, CRC

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TO: Commonwealth Regional Council

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh, Planning Director

SUBJECT: SEED Innovation Hub Project Update

DATE: September 10, 2024

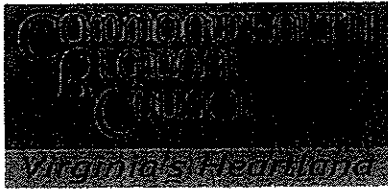
Project: The CRC is under contract with the Longwood Real Estate Foundation to provide project administration assistance for three grants that will fund the rehabilitation, renovation, and will provide equipment for the development of the SEED Innovation Hub. The Economic Development Association (EDA) has awarded the Longwood Real Estate Foundation with \$1,986,965.00 in grant funds for construction costs for the facility. The Tobacco Commission also awarded the project \$500,000 in grant funds for construction costs for the facility. Go Virginia awarded the project \$674,304.00 in grant funds to purchase necessary equipment to establish the SOVA Innovation Hub.

Project Update: Construction on the project has begun and is an estimated 62% completed.

EDA funds- CRC staff conducted a Davis Bacon Act review on the Contractors' submitted certified payroll documents. CRC staff will be conducting a Davis Bacon Act interview of contractor staff on September 16th. The CRC staff assembled and submitted documentation for the third reimbursement request to the EDA.

Tobacco Commission Funds- CRC staff assembled and submitted documentation for the second and third reimbursement request to the Tobacco Commission. CRC staff assembled and submitted an extension letter to the Tobacco Commission to extend the grant from September 2024 to March 2025 to give the LUREF ample time to complete the project.

GO Virginia Funds – Awaiting purchase of the equipment to submit reimbursement costs. CRC staff is preparing match documentation to submit to GO VA.



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MEMORANDUM:

TO: CRC Member Localities & Longwood University
FROM: Christin Jackson, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Status Report - Creation of Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance (VHREDA)
DATE: September 18, 2024 (for dates from August 14th – September 11th)

Project: CRC GO Virginia Enhanced Capacity Building Grant to fund a business plan & strategy for the creation of a NEW CRC (footprint) Regional Economic Development Organization (REDO) in partnership with Longwood University. The CRC hired a consultant team in March 2023: Creative Economic Development Consulting, Timmons Group/Mangum Economics and Convergent Nonprofit Solutions to assist the CRC staff, CRC REDO Working Committee and CRC Advisory Board in completing this feasibility project. This grant is complete and has been closed out. The results of the project concluded that a new REDO is a viable option. The new REDO – Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance (VHREDA) is being pursued by the CRC.

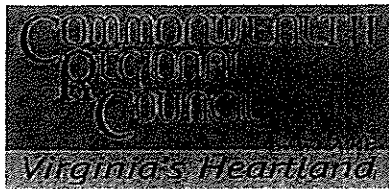
Update:

- Convergent Nonprofit Solutions, LLC began working on the Private Campaign Fundraising for the Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance (VHREDA) April 1, 2024. Convergent has been working with CRC staff and in contact weekly on the VHREDA Campaign Fundraising. The CRC is paying for these services upfront and will be reimbursed by VHREDA once established. Please note in the CRC Treasurers Report *Item 46088 New REDO costs* is keeping an accounting of the costs, through the end of the year are \$50,216.83 plus the new fiscal year of \$11,500 as of September 11, 2024, for a total of \$88,571.76. (August and September Bills were paid)
- Worked with Catherine Douglas and Gary Elder on 501c3 status with creating a board contact list, a 3-year proposed budget, and worked through questions on the phone with Catherine.
- Participated in weekly meetings with Andy Brubaker and then separate weekly meetings with Paul Santiago.
- Prep for second VHREDA Board Meeting and got insurance quote for meeting.
- On August 26th, hosted the second VHREDA Board Meeting was held virtually and in-person at the CRC office. The Board discussed and approved VAcop as the insurance provider for the organization. They decided to have monthly meetings on the last Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM (in person or virtual). The Board asked Christin to create a job description and salary range for the Executive Director and they set up a committee to lead the search. We also discussed investments and a committee for that, but they decided that the board would each send two names to Andy Brubaker to contact.
- Researched Economic Development Job Descriptions, created a new one, and circulated it to the VHREDA Board.
- Contacted Jason Loehr, Exec Director of Southside Electric and he agreed to be on the Board.
- Contacted Robert Boyle, President of Planet Networks and he wants to invest and assigned Andrew Lonadier as a Board Representative for Planet Networks.
- Contacted Dr. Thomas Angelo or Centra Southside and he decided to be on the Board.
- Contacted Chip Jones, the Superintendent of Cumberland County Schools and he also agreed to be on the board.
- CRC staff sent out invoices to the counties with W-9's and started sending them to investors as well. Letter Press of Farmville was the first investor to submit an investment.
- Christin and Andy met LeAnne Emert virtually about Benchmark's investment and about door openers.
- Christin and Andy met virtually with the RiverStreet team to talk about investing.
- Held conversations with three different potential consultants to discuss how gaining investments looked like in their business.

Establishing VHREDA as a 501c3

- The CRC has authorized staff to collaborate with an attorney to set up VHREDA as a 501c3 with a cap of \$8,000 in expense. We have the State Corporation Commission Letter, the EIN number, and a checking account set up for the new organization at Truist Bank.
- Elder, Watkins, Friedman, & Allen, P.C. is continuing to assist the CRC with the process for obtaining 501c3 status for VHREDA.

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TO: CRC Representatives

FROM: Monica H. Frisby, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: Creation of Central Virginia Poultry Cooperative
TRRC and VDACS, AFID Planning & Infrastructure Grants

DATE: September 9, 2024

Project: The CRC assisted the Central Virginia Poultry growers since May of 2023 to find solutions for farmers who were affected by the Tyson closure in Glen Allen, Virginia. The growers came up with a solution – the creation of the Central Virginia Poultry Cooperative (CVPC). The Central Virginia Poultry Cooperative was created and has entered into an agreement with Dutch Country Organics, LLC of Middlebury, Indiana. CVPC will raise and sell wholesale cage-free and other premium table eggs to Dutch Country LLC. To assist with the start of costs for the CVPS, the Commonwealth Regional Council served as the applicant and fiscal agent obtaining the following grants: Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund (AFID) Planning Grant for \$35,000; VDACS, AFID Infrastructure Grant for \$50,000; VDACS, Rural Rehabilitation Trust for \$341,750; and the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission (TRRC) Southern Virginia Program Grant for \$1,400,000.

Project Update:

VDACS, AFID Planning Grant: The CRC has executed the Planning Grant agreement with VDACS. To date, a total of \$25,115.60 has been requested for reimbursement.

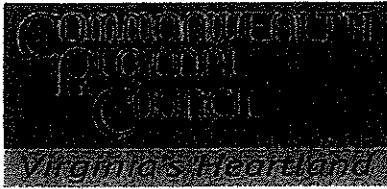
VDACS, Rural Rehabilitation Trust: The CRC has executed a grant agreement with VDACS.

VDACS, AFID Infrastructure Grant: The CRC has executed the Infrastructure Grant agreement with VDACS.

TRRC: The CRC has executed both grant agreements with the Tobacco Commission. To date, \$106,000 has been requested for reimbursement, along with an advancement of \$318,000.

CRC staff continues to work on assembling reimbursements for all the grants.

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TO: CRC Representatives

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh, Planning Director

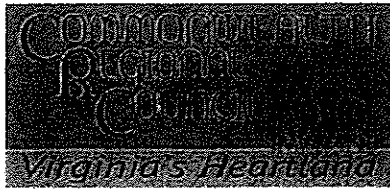
SUBJECT: Charlotte Court House Lead Service Project

DATE: September 10, 2024

Project: The Town of Charlotte Court House has been awarded \$100,000 in grant funding from the Virginia Department of Health – Office of Drinking Water (VDH – ODW) to undertake a lead service line inventory for the Town’s municipal water system. Consequently, the Town has requested assistance from the Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) in the implementation of this project. The CRC is aiding in implementing this project.

Project Update: CRC staff assisted the Town to review and assemble the RFP for a consultant to complete the Lead Service Inspection for Charlotte Court House. As required by VDH, the CRC staff researched MBE-WBE firms for direct mailing of the RFP. Town staff direct mailed the RFP to four firms, three of which were MBE-WBE firms as required by VDH. The RFP closed on July 31st. The Town received one proposal from Samples’ Monitoring Services. As required by VDH, CRC staff prepared the bid document checklist, required documents, and shared this checklist with VDH staff for approval of procurement. Our VDH contact that we were working with to approve the procurement process is no longer at VDH. CRC has been corresponding with VDH staff to determine the new VDH contact for procurement approval. The CRC has emailed the new contact and is still awaiting bid approval. Once approved, Charlotte Court House can move forward with awarding the contractor.

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TO: CRC Representatives

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh, Planning Director

SUBJECT: The Town of Crewe Downtown Revitalization Planning Grant

DATE: September 10, 2024

Project: The Town of Crewe has been awarded \$50,000 in planning grant funding from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) program. With this planning grant, the Town will hire a consultant to complete an economic restructuring plan, building blight inventory, and a prioritized improvement plan for the Town's Business District with the hopes to apply for a CBDG, Downtown Revitalization Grant for the next grant cycle. During the submission of the planning grant application, the CRC had to complete several preliminary planning activities for application approval. CRC staff completed the following preliminary planning activities including: holding an initial public meeting, identifying a project management team (PMT), holding a PMT meeting, completing a preliminary building survey, and providing documentation on the CRC's on-call consultant RFP process to DHCD. DHCD has agreed to allow the Town to select a consultant from our on-call consultant program. The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is assisting the Town of Crewe with implementation of this planning grant.

Project Update: The Consultant hired Hill Studio, a consultant firm based out of Roanoke, VA. Hill Studio held the first kick-off meeting on August 20th with the project management team. The project management team is made up of business owners, the Town Manager, the Town Mayor, CRC staff, and other community sparkplugs. During this kick-off meeting, Hill Studio discussed their role for this project, reviewed project area, and discussed the expected outcomes of this project.

The estimate competition date for this project is March 2025.

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TO: CRC Representatives

FROM: Lauren J. Pugh, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Economic Development Administration (EDA), Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program

DATE: September 10, 2024

Project: In July 2024, the Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) applied for \$70,000 in EDA Planning and Technical Assistance funds. On September 3rd, the CRC was notified by the EDA representative that the CRC was awarded \$70,000 in grant funds to support the update of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and to support activities including grant writing, planning technical assistance, and GIS mapping services. The CRC receives these funds as part of their Economic Development District designation

Project Update: The following activities have been completed this quarter (September 3rd – September 10th) by CRC staff:

- Completed some preplanning activities to prepare for the CEDS update.
- Helping Stand up the new Regional Economic Development Organization (REDO) by:
 - Attending meetings weekly check-in meetings with Convergent Non-profit Solutions
 - Corresponding with the consultant, Convergent Non-Profit Solutions
 - Scheduling a virtual meeting to set up the new Board of Directors
- The CRC provides grant writing services.
- The CRC corresponded, set up meetings, researched grant opportunities, and vetted potential grant applications
- Assisting the Town of Crewe with the CBDG Planning Grant
- Providing Grant Administration Services the Central Virginia Poultry Group (CVPG) for the Tobacco Commission and VDACS grants by:
 - Submitting reimbursement requests
 - Acting as the Applicant and Fiscal agent for these grants
 - Corresponding with CVPG and Grant Administrative staff

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MEMORANDUM

TO: CRC Council Members

FROM: Tyler Henderson
Regional Planner

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: VDOT Rural Transportation Planning Program— Monthly Update

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is implementing the VDOT Rural Transportation Planning Program to address the transportation needs of the Commonwealth region of Virginia, covering seven counties and their respective towns. The program focuses on enhancing regional transportation planning, providing technical assistance, and supporting local jurisdictions in improving transportation infrastructure and efficiency.

Update: CRC staff have been actively engaged in professional development and collaborative efforts in the region. Below is a summary of key activities completed in the past month related to the VDOT Rural Transportation Planning Program:

1. **Local Road Safety Plan Training:** CRC staff completed an 8-hour online hybrid course on the "Local Road Safety Plan", provided by the UVA Center for Transportation Studies as part of the VA LTAP Safety Circuit Rider program. The course included live interactive sessions, video modules, quizzes, and required assignments across four modules. This comprehensive training equips local road agencies with the tools to develop Local Road Safety Plans (LRSPs) aimed at reducing roadway fatalities and crashes by identifying and prioritizing safety improvements.
2. **Lunch & Learn: Emerging Technologies:** CRC staff have also participated in a "Lunch & Learn" session titled "Emerging Technologies that Transform the Business of VDOT and the Transportation Industry." This session covered the impact of cutting-edge technologies on the transportation industry, providing CRC with forward-looking insights into how these innovations may influence future planning and project development.
3. **Title VI Program Plan Update:** The Commonwealth Regional Council's Title VI Program Plan was updated to reflect Tyler Henderson's new role as Title VI Coordinator and incorporate the latest organizational changes within CRC. This update ensures our compliance with federal regulations and demonstrates our commitment to promoting equity in transportation planning.
4. **Assistance with Keysville's Ready, Set, Go! Project:** CRC staff provided on-the-ground support for the Virginia Department of Transportation's Keysville Ready, Set, Go! project by responding to a request from the Lynchburg District Planning Manager. This included taking and submitting photos of the project area, including railroad crossings and tie-in locations within the town, to assist with VDOT's planning efforts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Christin Jackson, Executive Director, CRC



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MEMORANDUM

TO: CRC Council Members

FROM: Tyler Henderson
Regional Planner

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Southeast Crescent Regional Commission Program— Monthly Update

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) continues to make progress on initiatives supported by the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) Local Development District (LDD) program. These projects focus on economic development, comprehensive planning, and infrastructure improvements across our seven-county service area. Below are key updates related to the SCRC program:

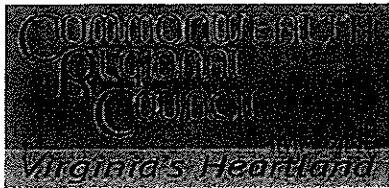
Update:

- 1. Grant Assistance and Technical Support:** CRC remains actively engaged in providing grant writing and administration services to localities, supporting SCRC's mission to promote regional economic growth. Recent efforts include broadband planning, fire department enhancements, and agricultural economic development across localities such as Prince Edward, Cumberland, and Blackstone.
- 2. Comprehensive Planning:** CRC is assisting Buckingham County with its Comprehensive Plan update, and we have successfully reversed the trend of falling behind schedule, now progressing ahead of schedule. Additionally, CRC is working with Lunenburg County, Kenbridge, and Victoria to complete their Joint Comprehensive Plan on an expedited schedule. This includes focusing on land use and special policy areas, ensuring that the plan reflects current community priorities while meeting the accelerated timeline requested by the localities.
- 3. Broadband and Economic Development Initiatives:** In alignment with SCRC initiatives, CRC has begun preparations for a Broadband Affordability and Adoption Plan for Prince Edward County, backed by a \$175,000 award. Additionally, the Virginia's Heartland Regional Economic Development Alliance (VHREDA) is advancing, with bylaws approved and officers elected, positioning the region for strategic economic growth.
- 4. Reimbursement and Financial Update:** CRC received a reimbursement of \$23,070.74 on August 5th for the first quarterly report (submitted in May). We are still awaiting reimbursement for \$9,929.26 from the second quarterly report, submitted in July. Once received, this will fully exhaust the \$33,000 allocated from the SCRC funding for the year.

This update summarizes CRC's ongoing efforts aligned with the SCRC program, with a focus on supporting localities through grant assistance, comprehensive planning, and broadband and economic development efforts. Further project details are provided in the main board packet.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Christin Jackson, Executive Director, CRC



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MEMORANDUM

TO: CRC Council Members

FROM: Monica H. Frisby, Regional Planner

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: CRC Staff Update – Providing Grant Writing Services to Local Agencies

As per the CRC's ongoing efforts to provide grant writing services for County Public Schools, local government, law enforcement, and 501 (c)(3) organizations in the region, the following activities have taken place since August 9, 2024:

Status Update

- Congratulations to Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department on being awarded \$97,409.52 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant to purchase a vehicle exhaust system.
- VDACS, AFID Planning Grant: CRC is assisting Cumberland County with a grant application to partial fund the development of an Agricultural Economic Development Plan.
- DHR, VA250: CRC assisted the Town of Blackstone with submitting a pre-application to purchase decorative light poles, a monument sign, and curb and gutter. In addition, the town would also construct a concrete walking pad for entry to building, sidewalk, and a parking lot.
- DHR, VA250: CRC assisted Mary E. Branch with a pre-application to fund the stabilization of the Mary E. Branch Building.
- VDFP, Regional Fire Services Training Facilities Grant: CRC assisted the Town of Blackstone with submitting an application to fund the purchase of a propane cylinder fire simulator prop and portable fire unit for the Blackstone Regional Fire Training Center.
- Tobacco Commission, Southern Virginia Program: CRC staff is assisting Cumberland County with a grant application to fund the development of an Agricultural Economic Development Plan. Application have been submitted.
- AFID, Infrastructure Planning Grant: CRC staff are assisting Cumberland County with a grant application to fund the development of an Agricultural Economic Development Plan. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.
- NPS, Save America's Treasures Grant: The CRC assisted Mary E. Branch Heritage Center with a submitted application to the renovate the historic Mary E. Branch Elementary School. Applications were due on December 1, 2023. – Not awarded.

Awaiting Approval

- Town of Victoria: CRC staff worked with the Town and an application has been submitted to the VDOF Preservation Trust Fund to upgrade the recreational area and bridge on Modest Creek Reservoir.

- Dominion Fire Grant: CRC staff assisted Keysville Volunteer Fire Department with a grant application to purchase ladder belts and hoses.
- VDCJS, Byrne Justice Assistance Grant: The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office was notified that their grant was approved with conditions. The agency requested changes to the application prior to an award package to be issued. The CRC assisted Charlotte County Sheriff's Office with these changes to the application and the application has been resubmitted for further review.
- CENTRA: The CRC assisted the Drakes Branch Volunteer Fire Department with an application to purchase a variety of equipment to perform lifesaving services.
- FEMA, FP&S Grant: The CRC assisted the Charlotte County Dept. of Public Safety with an application to purchase smoke detectors, medical equipment for fire personnel, and accountability system for firefighters. The application was due on April 12th.
- FEMA, SAFER Grant: The CRC is assisting Farmville Fire Department with an application to hire additional paid fire staff. The applications are due on April 12th.
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG): Applications were due on March 8th. The CRC assisted the following agencies with AFG applications:
 - Victoria Fire and Rescue – purchase a vehicle
 - Blackstone VFD – purchase an exhaust system- Awarded listed above.
 - Keysville VFD – purchase breathing apparatus
 - Prince Edward County (regional application) – purchase radios – Awarded
- USDOT Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility grant: The CRC assisted Piedmont Senior Resources with an application to purchase a vehicle. Applications were due on February 13th.
- VDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP): The CRC assisted Amelia County with the submission of a full TAP application to fund the construction of a sidewalk. Applications were due October 2, 2023.

Projects on Standby (work undertaken as developments warrant)

- Longwood Real Estate Foundation: CRC staff is working on identifying potential grants to fund a position at the SEED Innovation Hub.
- VHSIP Local Systemic Grant: CRC staff is working Prince Edward to discuss potentially applying for this grant.
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- Keysville Volunteer Fire Department: CRC staff met with the Chief to discuss grant opportunities for their department.
- Mary E. Branch: CRC staff met with Mary E. Branch to discuss grant opportunities for the rehabilitation and renovation of the Mary E. Branch Elementary School in Farmville, VA.

- Crewe Volunteer Fire Department: CRC staff is working with Crewe Volunteer Fire Department on a potential application to Firehouse Subs for Gear Dryer for turnout gear. CRC staff is also working with the fire department on a potential application to RSAF for a LUCAS Device. The next round of RSAF funds will open on September 15th.
- Nottoway County LRA: CRC is working on identifying potential grants to fund repairs to the Camp Pickett Officer's Club.
- HITT: CRC staff is working with Prince Edward County on a potential application to VDOT for access road funds.
- Nottoway County: CRC staff is working with Nottoway County to identify funding to assist with operational costs for the landfill.
- Better Days Farmville: CRC staff is working with Better Day Farmville, a local non-profit, to identify funding sources to purchase a new building for its operations.
- Town of Kenbridge: CRC staff are working with Lunenburg County and the Town of Kenbridge to identify funding sources to purchase a HVAC system for the Kenbridge Recreation Center.
- Town of Keysville: CRC staff are working with the Town of Keysville to identify funding sources for the construction of a pickle ball court and public parking lot.
- Community Resource Services: CRC staff is working with Community Resource Services, a local non-profit, to identify funding sources for the construction of a new food pantry that would serve Lunenburg County. CRC staff are looking into submitting a potential application to the Sentra Health grant program in the fall.
- Curdsville Community Center (Buckingham County): The CRC is working with the group to seek funding opportunities to renovate the community center.
- Playground Equipment Funding: The CRC is continuing to research funding for playground equipment.
- Animal Shelter Funding: The CRC is continuing to research funding for new animal shelters.
- Twin Lakes State Park, Friends of Twin Lakes State Park: The CRC is working with the State Park and the non-profit group that supports the State Park to identify funding opportunities for various projects at the park.

Upcoming Grant Funding Opportunities	
Grant Opportunity	Deadline
Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF)	Closed, Opens on September 15, 2024
VDOF, Virginia Trees for Clean Water	Open - Rolling Basis
VDACS AFID Planning Grant	Open- Rolling Basis
VHSIP Local Systemic Grant	Open- October 31, 2024
VTC, VA250 Marketing Leverage Program	Opens: August 1, 2024 – September 17, 2024
VTC, Virginia Special Events and Festivals Program	Opens: July 16 – September 26, 2024

**Programs with rolling submissions include: EDA,
USDA, Virginia Housing, GO Virginia, DHCD,
Tobacco Commission TROF, VEDP, etc.*

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